

# Town of Amherst Town Council Meeting Monday, September 21, 2020 6:30 p.m. Virtual Meeting Minutes

Complete video is available online: <a href="https://amherstmedia.org/content/amherst-town-council-september-21-2020">https://amherstmedia.org/content/amherst-town-council-september-21-2020</a>

## 1. Call to Order

Councilors Participating Remotely: Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz

Councilors Absent: Councilor DuMont

Others Participating Remotely: Town Manager Paul Bockelman, Acting Town Clerk Susan Audette, Facilities Manager Jeremiah Laplante, and Clerk of the Council Athena O'Keeffe

After confirming all participants could hear and be heard, President Griesemer declared the presence of a quorum, called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. and announced audio and video recording by Amherst Media.

Note: Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, this meeting of the Town Council was conducted via remote participation.

## 2. Announcements

**Upcoming Town Council Meetings:** 

- Town Council Primer and Public Forum on the Master Plan: September 29, 2020
  - o Primer 6:30 p.m.
  - o Public Forum 7:00 p.m.
- Regular Town Council Meeting: October 5, 6:30 p.m.
- Regular Town Council Meeting: October 19, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

**Upcoming Council Committee Meetings:** 

- Community Resources Committee: September 29, 2020 2:00 p.m.
- Finance Committee: September 22, 2020 2:30 p.m.
- Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee: October 7, 2020 10:30 a.m.
- Town Services and Outreach Committee: September 24, 2020 6:30 p.m.

All meeting agendas and details are posted at <a href="www.amherstma.gov/calendar">www.amherstma.gov/calendar</a>

## **COVID-19 Call-in Number and Email:**

The COVID-19 Concern Line (413) 259-2425 and email address: <a href="mailto:covidconcerns@amherstma.gov">covidconcerns@amherstma.gov</a> are now available for residents to communicate their concerns about masks, social distancing, gatherings, etc.

The Community Preservation Act Committee has opened the call for proposals. Proposals are due October 12, 2020. See <a href="www.AmherstMA.Gov/CPA">www.AmherstMA.Gov/SPA</a> for details; propose a project online at: <a href="www.AmherstMA.Gov/3511/">www.AmherstMA.Gov/3511/</a>

- 3. Hearings None
- 4. General Public Comment

Zoe Crabtree, Amherst resident, spoke on behalf of the Defund 413 group about the Town Manager's planned Community Safety Working Group, who demands that the interview team be paid for their time and work, and be instructed not to weigh expertise from an educated background over expertise gained from lived experiences.

Bailey Batty, Amherst resident, spoke in opposition to the inclusion of the Police Chief in the Community Safety Working Group, spoke about lack of outreach to the Defund 413 group, the purpose of the Community Safety Working Group, and the accessibility of the application.

## 5. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda: The following items were selected because they were considered to be routine and it was reasonable to expect they would pass with no controversy. To remove an item from the consent agenda for discussion later in the meeting, ask that it be removed when the President lists the consent agenda items. The request to remove an item from the consent agenda does not require a second.

**MOTION:** President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to move the following items, and the printed motions thereunder and approve those items as a single unit:

- Suspension of Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for the following agenda items:
  - o 8.b. Participatory Budgeting Commission Extension of Deadline
  - o 8.c. Ranked Choice Voting Commission Extension of Deadline
- 11.a-c. Approval of Minutes:
  - o August 17, 2020 Town Council Meeting minutes
  - o August 31, 2020 Town Council Meeting minutes
  - o September 14, 2020 Town Council Meeting minutes

**VOTED** 12-0 by roll call (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont was absent) to move the following items, and the printed motions thereunder and approve those items as a single unit:

- Suspension of Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for the following agenda items:
  - o 8.b. Participatory Budgeting Commission Extension of Deadline
  - o 8.c. Ranked Choice Voting Commission Extension of Deadline
- 11.a-c. Approval of Minutes:
  - o August 17, 2020 Town Council Meeting minutes
  - o August 31, 2020 Town Council Meeting minutes
  - o September 14, 2020 Town Council Meeting minutes
- **6.** Resolutions and Proclamations *None*
- 7. Presentations and Discussion

# a. Community Safety

Town Manager Paul Bockelman spoke about feedback regarding the working group including:

- Public meetings subject to Open Meeting Law or private meetings that would allow more open dialogue
- The inclusion of a police presence at the meetings
- Whether the name of the committee should include the words "racial equity justice"

Councilor De Angelis expressed discomfort with not including "racial justice" in the title of the working group, noting the murder of George Floyd was what began the conversation. Councilor De Angelis spoke about concerns regarding transparency, the desire to make community activity forms and statements of interest public.

Councilor Steinberg spoke about his experience working in the field of civil legal aid for underprivileged people during his career. Councilor Steinberg spoke about accessibility to public meetings, the need for a computer and internet access to participate in public meetings, and spoke in support of working to make sure that people of all socioeconomic levels are aware of and able to participate in the Community Safety group.

Councilor Pam agreed with Councilor De Angelis about the name of the committee, and spoke in favor of creating the group as a public body subject to the Open Meeting Law.

Councilor Brewer spoke about personal experiences, including learning from residents that residents of color do not feel safe in Amherst. Councilor Brewer spoke about the name of the group, and asked that the Town Manager make frequent updates to the Town Council on the committee's progress.

Councilor Ross asked if members of the interview group can serve on the committee, spoke about the Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee process for recommending appointments, noted that Northampton does not make all community activity forms public, only those who are recommended to serve, and asked about the size of the interview committee.

P. Bockelman stated he would not preclude anyone from serving on the committee.

Councilor Bahl-Milne asked if the timeframe is reasonable for completing the task, or if there is any flexibility with the deadline, spoke about concerns regarding transparency, paying committee members, the title of the committee, including other stakeholders such as businesses and schools, and including an officer with hands-on experience on the committee.

P. Bockelman spoke about the committee timeline, and about paying committee members.

Councilor Schoen spoke about the committee name, suggested distributing headsets to committee members, and the need for an officer to be available to the committee if requested.

President Griesemer stated that it is consistent with other committees to have a police presence, that if the Town pays this committee for their service, the Town should pay members of all Town committees, it should be private if members request any assistance and that that may encourage broader participation for all committees, spoke about challenges with demonstrating experience versus education, and that racial equity and racial justice permeate everything so it is not needed in the title of the group.

Councilor Schreiber spoke about the idea that Amherst can be a model for rethinking community safety.

Councilor Swartz stated the conversation is tone-deaf, and that the Town must be practical, as this has to do with race and equity.

Councilor Brewer stated the group is not reporting to the Council, they are reporting to the Town Manager, and that this is not a police oversight committee. Councilor Brewer stated other groups that grow out of this group may have things like family care and a stipend, but that will not happen before January.

# b. Polling Locations

Town Manager Paul Bockelman introduced Acting Town Clerk Sue Audette and Maintenance Manager Jeremiah Laplante.

- S. Audette and J. Laplante spoke about the following:
  - The changes to the polling locations for the State Primary Election
  - Minor Election Day issues
  - Town voted overwhelmingly by mail
  - Higher in-person turnout expected in November
  - Use of a central tabulation facility planned for November in place of processing mail-in ballots at the polls
  - Observers at polling locations
  - Occupancy load not expected to be a limiting factor
  - No changes recommended prior to the Presidential Election

Councilor Schoen spoke about the drop box outside Town Hall for voters to hand-deliver their mail-in ballots.

Councilor Brewer asked that the Town Clerk department add days of the week to the voting dates on the Town website.

Councilor Bahl-Milne asked about how early and mail-in ballots are processed.

S. Audette responded that a central tabulation facility will be used to process early ballots on November 3

Councilors thanked the Town Clerk staff, election workers and J. Laplante.

#### 8. Action Items

# a. Percent for Art Bylaw – Second Reading – Charter Sec. 2.10(a)

Councilor Schoen thanked everyone for the discussion at the last Council meeting, and spoke about the process for bringing the bylaw to the Council.

**MOTION:** Councilor Schoen moved, second by Councilor De Angelis, to adopt the Percent for Art Bylaw as a General Bylaw of the Town, as follows:

## **Percent for Art Bylaw**

# **Section 1: Purpose**

The purpose of this bylaw is to promote the enjoyment of the arts by increasing the quantity and quality of public art in Amherst, thereby expanding the value and use of public buildings, facilities and spaces, and contributing to the Town's cultural vitality and economic well-being.

Therefore, this bylaw establishes a funding program to ensure that public art is acquired, created, and otherwise made available in Amherst. It authorizes an allocation for public art of an amount equal to one-half percent (0.5%) of the capital costs of any eligible Town construction project budgeted at a minimum of \$1,000,000.

#### **Section 2: Definitions**

For the purposes of this bylaw, the following words shall have the following meanings:

- 1."Public Art Commission" means the Commission established by the Town in 1990.
- 2. "Public art/public artwork" means permanent art projects that are an integral part of a public building, facility or space. Such art may include, but shall not be limited to, paintings, sculpture, engravings, carvings, frescoes, stained glass, mobiles, murals, collages, mosaics, bas-reliefs, tapestries, photographs, drawings, and landscape items, including the artistic placement of natural materials or manmade fountains or other functional art objects.

The public artwork shall be located at, within or upon the site of the building, facility or space associated with the construction project, so long as the public artwork is accessible to the public.

- 3. "Public buildings, facilities and spaces" means publicly accessible structures, infrastructure, parks, and landscapes.
- 4. "Construction project" means any capital project paid for in full or in part by the Town through its own eligible funds to construct or remodel any public building, facility or space, or any portion thereof, within the corporate limits of the Town and with respect to the construction of which bidding is required under State law.
- 5. "Eligible funds" means the funds for construction projects from the Town's General Fund, including any funds to be borrowed that will be repaid from the General Fund; funds raised by grants if permissible under the terms of the grant; or funds provided by taxation, including those funded pursuant to a debt exclusion.
- 6. "Percent for Art Advisory Committee" means a group temporarily appointed by the Town Manager for one or more construction projects in consultation with the Public Art Commission. This Committee shall include a majority of professionals who work in the arts in fields such as production, education, criticism, administration, fund raising, curating, and collecting, who are well-respected and knowledgeable regarding visual art. The Committee shall also include key stakeholders, including but not limited to users of the proposed building, neighbors of the project and other members of the public.

## **Section 3: Funding**

All eligible funds for construction projects budgeted at \$1,000,000 or greater shall include an amount equal to one-half percent (0.5%) of the total eligible, estimated costs of such projects, as determined by the Town Manager or designee, for public art. This calculation shall be made no later than when funding for the construction of this project is voted by Town Council, and shall be voted as a separate line-item of the project. If estimated project costs rise after the designated percent for art is determined, the amount designated as a percent for art will not increase; but if estimated project costs decrease, the amount will be recalculated based on the lower estimated project costs, provided that a contract for art work has not already been executed.

Copies of all estimated project costs shall be delivered to the Public Art Commission as soon as possible during the planning stages of the project in order to include an artist as part of the

construction project team. The estimates shall include all construction costs, architectural and engineering fees, and site work expenses.

Funds appropriated for this purpose may be used for design services of artists, for the selection, acquisition, purchase, commissioning, installation and display of public art, and other incidental and related costs. Any money authorized for a particular public artwork that has not been spent by the end of the third fiscal year following such authorization, or by the end of the fifth fiscal year upon special approval by the Town Council, shall, at the end of that fiscal year, revert to its original funding source.

The following are excluded from this source of funding: elements that are designed or designated by a construction project's architect or landscape architect, as opposed to an artist commissioned for this purpose; and mass-produced art objects of standard design such as playground equipment or fountains.

Following consultation with the Town Manager, the Town Council may, by majority vote, lower or eliminate the percentage for art on any qualifying construction project.

## **Section 4: Public Art Ownership**

Ownership of artwork selected in accordance with this bylaw shall transfer to the Town of Amherst upon final installation and in accordance with any applicable contract executed between the Town and the artist or other legal entity responsible for providing such art. In addition to any other terms and conditions that may be established by contract, the public art project artist or other legal entity responsible for providing such art, shall provide and maintain insurance coverage for such purposes and in such amounts as required by the Town, with the Town named as an additional insured or the equivalent, for the duration of the creation, fabrication and installation of the artwork.

Any decision concerning deaccessioning shall be made by the Public Art Commission in consultation with the Town Manager. Any funds generated from such deaccession shall be treated as General Fund revenue.

## **Section 5: Responsibilities**

The Percent for Art program shall be administered by the Public Art Commission, under the supervision of the Town Manager, with the assistance of a Percent for Art Advisory Committee.

The Public Art Commission's responsibilities include:

- 1. Working with the Town Manager to develop a plan and appropriate guidelines to manage such projects, which may include: recommendations for prioritizing the creation and placement of artwork in public buildings, facilities and spaces around Town; establishing general guidelines for the selection of artists and public artworks; meetings with relevant Town departments in coordination with the Town Manager, nonprofit organizations, and members of the public; and public hearings.
- 2. Developing criteria for the selection of such projects, including, but not limited to: artistic quality, originality, context and feasibility; public opinion; the diversity of artists regarding race, gender identity and cultural background; and the relationship of the artist to Amherst and the surrounding area.

- 3. Developing recommendations for the location of such projects and the location within individual public buildings, facilities and spaces where they shall be placed or created, subject to approval of the Town Manager.
- 4. Giving due consideration to maintenance requirements of such projects, including structural and surface soundness, resistance to theft, vandalism and weathering, and the anticipated cost of ongoing maintenance and/or repair.
- 5. Advising the Town Manager with respect to soliciting proposals for review and selecting such projects with the assistance of a Percent for Art Advisory Committee and in consultation with the construction project architect and manager and appropriate Town officials and agencies. The final decision on the public artwork shall be made after public hearing by majority vote of the Public Art Commission, following input from a Percent for Art Advisory Committee and consultation with the Town Manager and other appropriate Town officials.
- 6. Advising the Town Manager, within the amounts appropriated and available therefor, as to the establishment of budgets for such projects, including materials, fees and other reasonably contemplated items of expense in the acquisition, development, creation, and implementation of such projects.
- 7. Working with the Town Manager, monitoring in partnership with the appropriate Town department(s), the installation of such projects and coordination between the artist, and the construction project architect and manager.
- 8. Working with the construction project manager with the goal of avoiding any delays related to the public artwork. The Town Manager, following consultation with the Public Art Commission (other than in circumstances of an emergency nature) may terminate construction of the public artwork if it is facing significant delays for other reasons consistent with law.
- 9. Recommending to the Town Manager dispersal of Percent for Art funds in coordination with the appropriate Town authority or designee(s) for such projects.
- 10. Establishing and maintaining records applicable to such projects in coordination with Town staff.
- 11. Recommending to the Town Manager procedures to be followed by other departments for the maintenance and preservation of such projects.

The Town of Amherst's responsibilities include:

1. Providing the Public Art Commission with administrative and technical support as appropriate to implement this bylaw.

**VOTED** 12-0 by roll call (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont was Absent) to adopt the Percent for Art Bylaw as a General Bylaw of the Town, as follows:

## **Percent for Art Bylaw**

# **Section 1: Purpose**

The purpose of this bylaw is to promote the enjoyment of the arts by increasing the quantity and quality of public art in Amherst, thereby expanding the value and use of public buildings, facilities and spaces, and contributing to the Town's cultural vitality and economic well-being.

Therefore, this bylaw establishes a funding program to ensure that public art is acquired, created, and otherwise made available in Amherst. It authorizes an allocation for public art of an amount equal to one-half percent (0.5%) of the capital costs of any eligible Town construction project budgeted at a minimum of \$1,000,000.

#### **Section 2: Definitions**

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The public artwork shall be located at, within or upon the site of the building, facility or space associated with the construction project, so long as the public artwork is accessible to the public.

- 3. "Public buildings, facilities and spaces" means publicly accessible structures, infrastructure, parks, and landscapes.
- 4. "Construction project" means any capital project paid for in full or in part by the Town through its own eligible funds to construct or remodel any public building, facility or space, or any portion thereof, within the corporate limits of the Town and with respect to the construction of which bidding is required under State law.
- 5. "Eligible funds" means the funds for construction projects from the Town's General Fund, including any funds to be borrowed that will be repaid from the General Fund; funds raised by grants if permissible under the terms of the grant; or funds provided by taxation, including those funded pursuant to a debt exclusion.
- 6. "Percent for Art Advisory Committee" means a group temporarily appointed by the Town Manager for one or more construction projects in consultation with the Public Art Commission. This Committee shall include a majority of professionals who work in the arts in fields such as production, education, criticism, administration, fund raising, curating, and collecting, who are well-respected and knowledgeable regarding visual art. The Committee shall also include key stakeholders, including but not limited to users of the proposed building, neighbors of the project and other members of the public.

## **Section 3: Funding**

All eligible funds for construction projects budgeted at \$1,000,000 or greater shall include an amount equal to one-half percent (0.5%) of the total eligible, estimated costs of such projects, as determined by the Town Manager or designee, for public art. This calculation shall be made no later than when funding for the construction of this project is voted by Town Council, and shall be voted as a separate line-item of the project. If estimated project costs rise after the designated percent for art is determined, the amount designated as a percent for art will not increase; but if estimated project costs decrease, the amount will be recalculated based on the lower estimated project costs, provided that a contract for art work has not already been executed.

Copies of all estimated project costs shall be delivered to the Public Art Commission as soon as possible during the planning stages of the project in order to include an artist as part of the

construction project team. The estimates shall include all construction costs, architectural and engineering fees, and site work expenses.

Funds appropriated for this purpose may be used for design services of artists, for the selection, acquisition, purchase, commissioning, installation and display of public art, and other incidental and related costs. Any money authorized for a particular public artwork that has not been spent by the end of the third fiscal year following such authorization, or by the end of the fifth fiscal year upon special approval by the Town Council, shall, at the end of that fiscal year, revert to its original funding source.

The following are excluded from this source of funding: elements that are designed or designated by a construction project's architect or landscape architect, as opposed to an artist commissioned for this purpose; and mass-produced art objects of standard design such as playground equipment or fountains.

Following consultation with the Town Manager, the Town Council may, by majority vote, lower or eliminate the percentage for art on any qualifying construction project.

## **Section 4: Public Art Ownership**

Ownership of artwork selected in accordance with this bylaw shall transfer to the Town of Amherst upon final installation and in accordance with any applicable contract executed between the Town and the artist or other legal entity responsible for providing such art. In addition to any other terms and conditions that may be established by contract, the public art project artist or other legal entity responsible for providing such art, shall provide and maintain insurance coverage for such purposes and in such amounts as required by the Town, with the Town named as an additional insured or the equivalent, for the duration of the creation, fabrication and installation of the artwork.

Any decision concerning deaccessioning shall be made by the Public Art Commission in consultation with the Town Manager. Any funds generated from such deaccession shall be treated as General Fund revenue.

## **Section 5: Responsibilities**

The Percent for Art program shall be administered by the Public Art Commission, under the supervision of the Town Manager, with the assistance of a Percent for Art Advisory Committee.

The Public Art Commission's responsibilities include:

- 1. Working with the Town Manager to develop a plan and appropriate guidelines to manage such projects, which may include: recommendations for prioritizing the creation and placement of artwork in public buildings, facilities and spaces around Town; establishing general guidelines for the selection of artists and public artworks; meetings with relevant Town departments in coordination with the Town Manager, nonprofit organizations, and members of the public; and public hearings.
- 2. Developing criteria for the selection of such projects, including, but not limited to: artistic quality, originality, context and feasibility; public opinion; the diversity of artists regarding race, gender identity and cultural background; and the relationship of the artist to Amherst and the surrounding area.

- 3. Developing recommendations for the location of such projects and the location within individual public buildings, facilities and spaces where they shall be placed or created, subject to approval of the Town Manager.
- 4. Giving due consideration to maintenance requirements of such projects, including structural and surface soundness, resistance to theft, vandalism and weathering, and the anticipated cost of ongoing maintenance and/or repair.
- 5. Advising the Town Manager with respect to soliciting proposals for review and selecting such projects with the assistance of a Percent for Art Advisory Committee and in consultation with the construction project architect and manager and appropriate Town officials and agencies. The final decision on the public artwork shall be made after public hearing by majority vote of the Public Art Commission, following input from a Percent for Art Advisory Committee and consultation with the Town Manager and other appropriate Town officials.
- 6. Advising the Town Manager, within the amounts appropriated and available therefor, as to the establishment of budgets for such projects, including materials, fees and other reasonably contemplated items of expense in the acquisition, development, creation, and implementation of such projects.
- 7. Working with the Town Manager, monitoring in partnership with the appropriate Town department(s), the installation of such projects and coordination between the artist, and the construction project architect and manager.
- 8. Working with the construction project manager with the goal of avoiding any delays related to the public artwork. The Town Manager, following consultation with the Public Art Commission (other than in circumstances of an emergency nature) may terminate construction of the public artwork if it is facing significant delays for other reasons consistent with law.
- 9. Recommending to the Town Manager dispersal of Percent for Art funds in coordination with the appropriate Town authority or designee(s) for such projects.
- 10. Establishing and maintaining records applicable to such projects in coordination with Town staff.
- 11. Recommending to the Town Manager procedures to be followed by other departments for the maintenance and preservation of such projects.

The Town of Amherst's responsibilities include:

1. Providing the Public Art Commission with administrative and technical support as appropriate to implement this bylaw.

**MOTION:** President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to dissolve the Percent for Art Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee, effective immediately.

**VOTED** 12-0 by roll call (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont was Absent) to dissolve the Percent for Art Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee, effective immediately.

b. Participatory Budgeting Commission Extension of Deadline – Charter Sec. 10.10

**VOTED** 12-0 via consent agenda to suspend Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for the current agenda item.

**MOTION:** President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to extend the deadline set forth in Charter Sec. 10.11 for the Participatory Budgeting Commission to propose a measure, from December 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency declared by the Town Manager on March 16, 2020.

**VOTED** 12-0 by roll call (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont was Absent) to extend the deadline set forth in Charter Sec. 10.11 for the Participatory Budgeting Commission to propose a measure, from December 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency declared by the Town Manager on March 16, 2020.

# c. Ranked Choice Voting Commission Extension of Deadline – Charter Sec. 10.11

**VOTED** 12-0 via consent agenda to suspend Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for the current agenda item.

**MOTION:** President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Steinberg, to extend the deadline set forth in Charter Sec. 10.10 for the Ranked Choice Voting Commission to propose a measure, from September 1, 2020 to December 1, 2020, due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency declared by the Town Manager on March 16, 2020.

**VOTED** 12-0 by roll call (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont was Absent) to extend the deadline set forth in Charter Sec. 10.10 for the Ranked Choice Voting Commission to propose a measure, from September 1, 2020 to December 1, 2020, due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency declared by the Town Manager on March 16, 2020.

# 9. Appointments

- a. Town Manager Appointments
  - (1) Human Resources Director Charter Sec. 2.11(a)
  - (2) **Health Director** *Charter Sec. 2.11(a)*

Councilor Pam reported the TSO committee voted unanimously to recommend the appointment of both Human Resources Director and Health Director.

Town Manager Paul Bockelman spoke about Donna Rae Kenneally and Emma Dragon's experience and qualifications.

**MOTION:** President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to approve the Town Manager's appointment of Donna-Rae Kenneally, J.D. as Human Rights Director, as filed with the Town Clerk on September 16, 2020, and recommended by the Town Services and Outreach Committee report of September 18, 2020.

**VOTED** 12-0 by roll call (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont was Absent) to approve the Town Manager's appointment of Donna-Rae Kenneally, J.D. as Human Rights Director, as filed with the Town Clerk on September 16, 2020, and recommended by the Town Services and Outreach Committee report of September 18, 2020.

**MOTION:** President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to approve the Town Manager's appointment of Emma Dragon as Health Director, as filed with the Town Clerk on September 16, 2020, and recommended by the Town Services and Outreach Committee report of September 18, 2020.

**VOTED** 12-0 by roll call (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont was Absent) to approve the Town Manager's appointment of Emma Dragon as Health Director, as filed with the Town Clerk on September 16, 2020, and recommended by the Town Services and Outreach Committee report of September 18, 2020.

## **b.** Town Council Appointments - None

# 10. Committee and Liaison Reports

- **a.** Community Resources Committee Councilor Hanneke reported the committee will discuss zoning bylaws at the upcoming September 29 meeting, and will review the process for appointments to the Planning Board.
- **b.** Finance Committee Councilor Steinberg noted the upcoming committee meeting date was moved to October 6, and upcoming committee agenda topics include: third quarter and year-end financial reports, capital inventory criteria, FY22 budget process, water and sewer rate structure, capital funding for capital needs and four major buildings, and the committee meeting schedule.
- **c. Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee** Councilor Ryan reported the committee has not met since the last Council meeting, the next committee meeting will be September 30 and review of the wage theft bylaw will be on the agenda.
- **d. Joint Capital Planning Committee** Councilor Schoen noted the next committee meeting is planned for early February.
- e. Town Services and Outreach Committee Councilor Pam reported the committee will meet on September 24, and agenda topics include review of any Town Manager appointments and Lincoln Avenue parking.
- **f. Liaison Reports:** Councilor De Angelis spoke about the Disability Access Advisory Committee's work, including a grant application, an ADA self-evaluation, and committee discussion of election issues for voters with disabilities.

# 11. Approval of Minutes – Consent Agenda

**VOTED** 12-0 via consent agenda to approve the following Town Council minutes as presented:

- August 17, 2020 Town Council Meeting
- August 31, 2020 Town Council Meeting
- September 14, 2020 Town Council Meeting

# 12. Town Manager Report

Town Manager Paul Bockelman spoke about the following:

- Covid hotline
- Cuppa Joe with the Town Manager on Friday 8-9:30 via Zoom
- 2020 Census
- UMass announcement of football games without spectators

Councilor Pam asked about lawn signs to remind residents to complete the census.

Councilor Steinberg suggested using reverse-911 and any other available mechanism to encourage responses to the census.

Councilor Schoen asked about using UMass off-campus student information to complete the census, asked about the COVID-19 reopening working group, spoke about a district meeting, and noted installation of traffic lights in North Amherst.

Councilor Schreiber stated ambassadors knocking on his door offering masks.

P. Bockelman spoke about ambassadors doing "knock and talks" as part of their outreach.

Councilor Ross spoke about students who have been issued \$300 noise violation fines, when in past years they would receive a warning. Councilor Ross asked if the Town is using the noise bylaw to implement COVID regulations, and shared that students have expressed that they feel their behavior scrutinized and that they feel residents do not want them in Amherst.

P. Bockelman spoke about the party registration system, and that he would look into the noise violation enforcement.

## 13. Town Council Comments

- a. President Report
- b. Future Agenda Items
- **c.** Councilor Comments Councilor Brewer spoke about individual Councilors role and Councilors inappropriately receiving messages from residents during meetings and relaying those messages to the Council during meetings.
- 14. Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting 15. Executive Session
  - a. [MGL c.30A, s.21(a)7] To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements: to approve the Town Council executive session minutes of June 17, 2019, August 19, 2019, August 26, 2019, September 23, 2019 and August 31, 2020, and to release the Town Council executive session minutes of June 17, 2019, August 26, 2019, September 23, 2019, and August 31, 2020. The Town Council will not reconvene in open session following the executive session.

**MOTION:** Councilor Hanneke moved, second by President Griesemer, to convene in executive session under MGL c.30A, s.21(a)7: to approve the Town Council executive session minutes of June 17, 2019, August 19, 2019, August 26, 2019, September 23, 2019, and August 31, 2020; to retain for future Town Council review the approved executive session minutes of August 19, 2019; and to release the minutes of June 17, 2019, August 26, 2019, September 23, 2019, and August 31, 2020; the Town Council will not reconvene in open session.

**VOTED** 12-0 by roll call (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont was Absent) to convene in executive session under MGL c.30A, s.21(a)7: to approve the Town Council executive session minutes of June 17, 2019, August 19, 2019, August 26, 2019, September 23, 2019, and August 31, 2020; to retain for future Town Council review the approved executive session minutes of August 19, 2019; and to release the minutes of June 17, 2019, August 26, 2019, September 23, 2019, and August 31, 2020; the Town Council will not reconvene in open session.

# 16. Adjourn

The Town Council adjourned to executive session at 9:26 p.m.

# Respectfully submitted,

Athena O'Keeffe

Clerk of the Council

## Record of Agenda Packet Materials and Documents Presented

00. 09-21-2020 Draft Motions for Town Council - as of 9-17-20

00. 09-21-2020 FINAL Town Council Agenda

thena O'keelle

11.a. 08-17-2020 DRAFT Town Council Minutes

11.b. 08-31-2020 DRAFT Town Council Minutes - revised

11.c. 09-14-2020 DRAFT Town Council Minutes

12. Town Manager Report 09-21-2020

7.a. Town Manager Memo on Community Safety 09-13-2020 Updated 09-19-2020

7.b. Town Clerk Presentation to Town Council 09-21-2020 FINAL

7.b. Town Manager Report - Election Results of September 1, 2020 Primary Election

8.b. 2020-09-14 Percent for Art Bylaw -- history and final 9-10-2020 - Complete

8.b. 8.c. Town Manager Memo - Extension of Time Ranked Choice Voting and Participatory Budgeting - 09-18-2020

8.b. Ad Hoc Percent for Art Committee report to Town Council final 2.5.2020

8.b. kaizen\_percent\_town\_council\_2-14-2020\_final

8.b. Percent for Art Bylaw Schoen FInance 9.12.20

9.a. 2020-09-21 TSO Report to Town Council

9.a.1. Human Resources Director Appointment with resume - 09-16-2020 - updated 9-18-2020

9.a.2. Health Director Appointment with resume - 09-16-2020 - updated 09-18-2020